PLANT TREES IN JUNE

Now is the time to plant shade or fruit trees, for June is usually a rainy month and much watering can be avoided.

The most important item in the life of a fruit or shade tree is the way it is planted. If it is bare-rooted, the roots must be kept moist from digging to planting, for if the bark on the roots ever gets dry, the roots are lost. They must be kept in wet peat moss or kept covered with wet rags or burlap all the time from digging to planting.

It is important to dig the hole at least twice the size of the root spread. Put top soil, which is usually only 6-8 inches deep, in one pile. Then remove the subsoil and put it in another pile. Mix a good dairy organic compost with the top soil at the rate of 1/4 organics to 3/4 soil. Place part of this mixture back into the hole to the level of the tree roots.

Next get your hose and start water running into the hole. When it is good and wet, unwrap the tree roots and place them in the hole, spreading them out. Add the rest of the peat mixture, settling the soil with water.

Last, put in the subsoil and make a basin of this dirt around the tree to make watering easy. Be sure that the tree is planted so that it will be no deeper than it originally was growing.

Water every day for a week, then every other day for two weeks, then twice a week for the next month.

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PINEWOOD NURSERY

Rosalie Wylie Phone 62-0795

6904 Interbay Blvd.
Tampa 11, Florida.

HIBISCUS HIBISCUS

CROTONS PALMS

OTHER PLANTS

HIBISCUS BREEDING - L. K. "Pic" Thompson

The following is presented in an effort to explain Hibiscus breeding to the amateur in simple terms. We hope that a trained botanist will not find too many errors and mis-statements.

A careful study of any plant will reveal that the entire plant is made up of cells. These cells are identical within a variety or cultivar as it is properly called. Except for the sex cells or GAMETES, which are found only in the ovary and the pollen, each cell contains in its nucleus a fixed number of chromosomes, which are always in multiples, usually two, of the basic chromosome count. When the gametes are formed within the flower bud, the basic cell "unzips" and half of the chromosomes go to each of the male and female gametes. As they recombine through fertilization, the chromosomes recombine into another complete cell in the embryo of the seed. This cell, by continued division of itself will form a new cultivar. These basic cells are called SOMATIC cells.

Each cutting, graft or asexual propagation from a cultivar is actually a part of the mother plant and regardless of how many are taken or through how many generations the propagation is carried, each plant will be identical in makeup to the mother plant and are called CLONES of that cultivar.

The GENES are carried as linked chains of particles on the surface of the chromosome. Each gene carries the means of imparting certain qualities or characteristics to the new seedling in color of bloom, type of foliage, etc. At the time of fertilization, the genes are pulled apart and cross over into the new nucleus in new combinations which will determine the characteristics of the new cultivar. Some of the genes may cross over in linked groups or they may even cross over singly.

According to Dr. Egolf at the National Arboretum.

(Next page)